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REMARKS

Claims 1-13 and 17-19 are pending. Claims 1-12 stand allowed. The Applicants herewith respectfully amend the language of the rejected claims without prejudice, per the recommendation of the Examiner, to expedite the prosecution of this case.

Rejections under 35 USC §112, paragraph 1

As suggested by the Examiner, the Applicants now amend the language of claim 13 to focus the limitation on the ability of compounds of the present invention to lower blood glucose, *per se*, i.e., the ability to effect the treatment of conditions characterized by hyperglycemia.

The Applicants respectfully point out, as specified in the application for patent as filed, that Type 2 diabetes represents over 90% of all diabetes. It is a metabolic disorder characterized by hyperglycemia leading to secondary complications such as neuropathy, nephropathy, retinopathy, hypertriglyceridemia, obesity, and other cardiovascular diseases generally referred as metabolic syndrome. The treatment generally prescribed for type 2 diabetes has been a combination of diet, exercise, and oral hypoglycemic agents, commonly sulfonylurea and biguanides ... Hence a drug that can control plasma glucose tightly without significant side effects is an important addition to diabetes therapy ... Figure 3 graphically illustrates *in vivo* blood glucose lowering effected by an exemplary compound of the present invention (Example 32) ... the administration of compounds of formula I to a patient treats diabetes and complications associated with it by lowering the patient's glucose and triglyceride levels. Such dual activities, for example, help the patient to circumvent hyperglycemia and hypertriglyceremia associated with type 2 diabetes, dyslipidemia, and obesity. See, e.g., specification page 2, lines 4-13; page 12, lines 10-13.

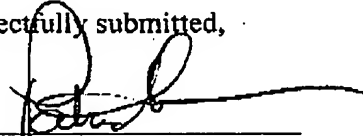
In view of the amendment the Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw all rejections under 35 USC §112, paragraph 1.

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For the foregoing reasons, the Applicants submit that, in addition to claims 1-12, Claims 13 and 17-19 are in condition for allowance. Early action toward this end is courteously solicited.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No.02-4800.

Respectfully submitted,



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